

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 EUR-12 IO-10 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01

CIEP-02 COME-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INT-05 L-02 NSC-05

OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-05 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00

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TO USIA WASHDC

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FOR: IOP/M, IBS, IAA, IPS

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: TRADE ACT REACTION

1. APRIL 7: EDITORIAL , IN INDEPENDENT DAILY EXPRESS
(CIRC. 70,000), "THE ENERGY CRISIS," DISCUSSES U.S. TRADE
BILL BLACKLISTING NIGERIA AND OTHER OPEC MEMBERS.

COMMENTARY SAYS, "THE UNITED STATES OFFICIALS TRIED TO
JUSTIFY THIS STEP BY SAYING THAT THE LAST OPEC MEASURES
HAVE ALLEGEDLY AGGRAVATED THE ENERGY CRISIS EXISTING IN THE
INDUSTRIALISED WESTERN COUNTRIES INCLUDING THE UNITED STATES..

"UNFORTUNATELY, IT HAS BECOME A COMMON PROCTICE TO BLAME
THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND FIRST OF ALL OIL PRODUCING
COUNTRIES FOR THE PRESENT ECONOMIC PLIGHT OF SOME WESTERN
POWERS IN RESPECT OF ENERGY."

EDITORIAL BLAMES O SCARCITY OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS IN WESTERN
COUNTRIES ON LARGE FUEL CONSUMPTION FOR MILITARY PURPOSES.

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EDITORIAL SAYS: "MEANWHILE, ACCORDING TO THEUNITED STATES

DEFENCE MINISTRY ESTIMATES, AN AVERAGE DAILY CONSUMPTION OF OIL FOR MILITARY PURPOSES 1975 WILL INCREASE BY 25 PER CENT IN COMPARISON WITH 1970. BY 1985 THIS FIGURE MIGHT BE 75 PER CENT HIGHER THEN IN 1970.

"THE SAME CAN BE SAID ABOUT THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION (NTO) WHICH IS PLANNING A NEW MODERNIZATION OF ITS MILITARY EQUIPMENT, MASSIVE REALLOCATIONS OF THE TROOPS AND SOME OTHER UNDERTAKINGS WHICH ARE BOUND TO CAUSE A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN ENERGY SPENDING."

"IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF ALL NATIONS THEREFORE THAT THE MOST AUTHORITATIVE WORLD BODY--THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION--SHOULD TAKE THE INITIATIVE AND PUT ON ITS GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA THE QUESTION OF CUTTING DOWN OIL CONSUMPTION FOR MILITARY PURPOSES IN ORDER TO PREVENT A WASTE OF THE VALUABLE RAW MATERIAL, TO STABILIZE PRICES AND TO ENSURE THAT PRODUCTION OF OIL SERVES THE INTERESTS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RATHER THAN HELP INCREASE WORLD-WIDE INFLATIONARY TENDENCIES THROUGH UNPRODUCTIVE USE OF FUEL."

2. SEE LAGOS 3072: REFERENCED LATTER APPEARED IN NIGERIAN OBSERVER AND IN SKETCH APRIL '4M
EDGES

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